

for Census

PARTICULARS OF GENERAL PROGRESS OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA DURING PERIOD 1917-18
TO 1922-23.

1. POPULATION.-- June 30th 1918 - 450,636

June 30th 1923 - 516,685. Increase 66,049 or 14½%.

2. BUILDINGS.-- During the period there has been great activity in the building of new dwelling houses, and altering and extending other Buildings.-- It is estimated that 14,300 dwelling houses have been built in the State during the last 6 years of which 3,000 were built in 1923. The minimum estimated expenditure on these houses and the extensions &c. to other buildings is \$4,000,000 in 1923 and \$14,761,000 for the period.

3. FLOCKS & HERDS.--

Cattle. June 30th 1918 - 313,245

June 30th 1923 - 425,811. Increase 36%

The satisfactory feature is that 35% of the increase was in the Dairying herds.

Sheep. The flocks as at June 30th 1923 in comparison with those at June 30th 1918 have only a little more than held their own, though they are over 2,000,000 stronger than June 30th 1917. The drought of 1919-20 decreased the flocks by 600,000 but in the last three seasons 300,000 of that loss has been made good. There were on June 30th 1923, - 6,305,133 Sheep in the State.

Grazing in the aggregate.-- Speaking of Cattle, Horses and Sheep in terms of Sheep, the aggregate would be 10,838,151 on June 30th 1918 and 11,824,821 on June 30th 1923, an increase of 9%.

Dairying.-- The advance of 35% in the strength of the dairying herds is reflected in the increased production of Butter from 10,482,895 lbs. to 14,646,632 lbs. Cheese 2,449,716 lbs. to 3,261,565 lbs. the total value of Dairying production being 1917-18 \$1,437,117. 1922-3 \$1,979,465.

4. CULTIVATION. - Comparative ~~and~~ Summary of acreage.

Class.	Ac	1917-18. Ac.	1922-23. Ac.	Increase %
Cereals & Hay		3,007,527	3,481,252	15.75
Orchards & Vineyards		58,782	79,753	35.68
All other Crops		13,469	14,447	7.26
Total Crops		3,079,778	3,575,452	16.09
Total Cultivation including Grasses & Fallow		4,581,823	5,439,019	18.71

The increase in the total cropped area has been continuous annually for the whole period with the exception of the drought year 1919-20 when there was a slight decrease.

Wheat.-- During the six seasons the wheat production averaged annually 25,766,000 Bushels or 11.47 Bushels per acre, and this notwithstanding two seasons when the Rainfall was $3\frac{1}{2}$ " below the mean annual fall. The prospects for 1923-24 are very favorable for a crop of at least 35,000,000 Bushels averaging 14 Bushels or over per acre. Though the harvesting weather has been generally ~~decidedly~~ unfavorable, it is not expected to have seriously affected the yield.

5. VALUATION OF PRODUCTION.--

Agricultural Production.-- The estimated value of crop production for 1917-18 was £10,291,443 - (£23/0/8 per head of population), 1922-23 £13,145,634 (£25/12/4 per head of population). The highest for the six seasons was in 1920-21- £19,981,471 (£40/13/8 per head of population); this was the result of a wheat crop of (34,258,914 Bushels averaging 15.8 bushels per acre and realizing very high prices.

Total Production.-- The estimated value of all kinds of production of the State- Agricultural, Pastoral, Dairying, Mining Manufacture &c. was- 1917-18 £27,471,531 (£61/9/7 per head of population) 1920-21 the highest year- £39,054,203 (£79/10/3 per head of population) and for the last season 1922-23 £33,808,000

(£65/17/7 per head of population) which is slightly in excess of the annual mean for the six seasons- £65/10/5.

• SAVINGS OF PEOPLE. The Savings Bank Deposits increased from £12,900,622 on June 30th 1918 to £18,249,540 on June 30th 1923, being an increase per head of population from £228/12/7 to £35/6/5. The number of depositors per 1,000 of population increased from 749 to 837. These figures indicate the general prosperity and thrift of the people. For each of the years of this period the averages per inhabitant have been considerably higher than those for the Commonwealth as a whole or any of the States.

1st February, 1924.

GOVERNMENT STATIST.